

SUPREME COURT OF ARKANSAS

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SUPREME COURT TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENTS AT NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL IN FORT SMITH

The Arkansas Supreme Court will travel to Fort Smith for its spring "Appeals on Wheels" event. Oral argument in Sandra Nance v. State, CR-13-655, from Lonoke County Circuit Court, will be heard in the Northside High School Auditorium at 2301 North B Street, beginning at 9 a.m. on April 10. The Court will go into informal session for a few minutes at 9 a.m. to allow for photographs. The public is welcome to attend.

The Sebastian County Bar Association will host the justices at a reception in Fort Smith the evening before arguments. About 600 students from area schools are expected to attend the arguments. Thursday afternoon, several justices plan to visit with Northside students and teachers. Usually, the justices visit multiple schools in the area, but this time there is a conflict with school testing, so they will stay at the high school.

Amendment 80 to the Arkansas Constitution, adopted by a vote of the people in 2000, provides that the Supreme Court may meet at such times and places as designated by the court. The justices are committed to providing more Arkansas citizens an opportunity to see how the state's highest court and the appellate process work. This is the 18th occasion since Amendment 80 passed that the court has conducted oral arguments outside of Little Rock, and the second time they have been to Fort Smith. The Court has visited Jonesboro, Fayetteville, El Dorado, Texarkana, Blytheville, Monticello, Hope, Harrison, Helena, Hot Springs, Bentonville, Conway, and Pine Bluff.

NOTE: Oral arguments are usually streamed live from the Justice Building in Little Rock. The April 10 arguments will be recorded, but it will take about a week to get the recording onto the archives at www.courts.arkansas.gov.